

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12483 101814Z

64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EA-11 IO-15 ISO-00 NEA-10 CU-04 SCI-06

EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12483

E.OM 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR

SUBJ: PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES

REF: A. USNATO 4783 B. MOSCOW 11403 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: SOVIETS HAVE A FIRM HOLD OVER THE ORGANIZATION AND ORIENTATION OF WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES, WHICH WILL MEET IN MOSCOW IN LATE OCTOBER. THEY DO NOT PLAN TO INVITE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. CHINESE WERE INVITED BUT HAVE NOT RESPONDED. CHILE AND MIDDLE EAST WILL BE MAJOR TOPICS. QUESTION OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS HAS BEEN RAISED PROVATELY BY SEAN MACBRIDE. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF OCTOBER 9 CALLED ON OLEG KHARKHARDI, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF SOVIET COMMITTEE FOR WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES, WHO GAVE RUNDOWN ON PREPARATIONS FOR CONGRESS WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO MEET IN MOSCOW FROM OCTOBER 25-31. KHARKHARDIN SAID CONGRESS BEING ORGANIZED BY INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WHICH WAS "ELECTED" AT MEETING IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12483 101814Z

MOSCOW LAST JULY. SOVIET COMMITTEE ID APPARENTLY DOING

MOST OF THE PLANNING AND WORK, HOWEVER, JUDGING FROM ITS LARGE STAFF AND AMPLE OFFICE SPACE WHICH IS A HUB OF ACTIVITY.

3. KHARKHARDIN DISINGENUOUSLY SAID THAT BREZHNEV HAD BEEN INVITED TO ADDRESS THE OPENING SESSION OF THE CONGRESS, BUT THAT HE HAS NOT YET ACCEPTED. WALDHEIM HAS ALSO BEEN INVITED BUT ORGANIZERS ARE NOT SURE IF HE WILL ATTEND. (ACCORDING TO LITERARY GAZETTE OCTOBER 10, MRS. SALVADOR ALLENDE HAS AGREED TO ADDRESS A PLENARY SESSION.)

4. THREE THOUSAND "NON-GOVERNMENTAL" DELEGATES FROM 98 INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND 130 COUNTRIES ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND CONGRESS. KHARKHARDIN CLAIMED THAT NO SPECIAL INVITATIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS HAD BEEN ISSUED AND THAT INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN CONGRESS WAS "SPONTANEOUS." HOWEVER, HE LATER STATED THAT CONGRESS PLANNERS HAD MADE SPECIAL EFFORT WITH REGARD TO ATTENDANCE BY CERTAIN PROMINENT ORGANIZATIONS. HE NOTED PARTICULARLY THAT THERE WOULD BE DELEGATES FROM UN BODIES, INCLUDING UNESCO, AS WELL AS FROM WESTERN RELIGIOUS AND OTHER "NON-SOCIALIST" ORGANIZATIONS. KHARKHARDIN ADMITTED THAT CONGRESS ORGANIZERS COULD NOT ACCEPT CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS (BELYING PUBLIC CLAIM THAT CONGRESS IS OPEN TO ALL), PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS WERE ACCEPTED, PROVIDING THEY WERE OF A "DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER." COMMUNIST CHINESE WERE INVITED TO SEND DELEGATES, BUT SO FAR ORGANIZERS HAVE "HEARD NOTHING FROM THEM." KHARKHARDIN STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO GOVERNMENTAL OBSERVERS. MOSCOW DIPLOMATIC CORPS WILL NOT BE INVITED, AND CONGRESS WILL NOT BE OPEN TO PUBLIC. PRESS WILL BE ALLOWED AT ALL SESSIONS. KHARKHARDIN ASSURED EMBOFF "YOUR JOURNALISTS" WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH ACCREDITATION, BUT INDICATED THERE ARE NO ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNOFFICIAL ATTENDANCE BY OBSERVERS FROM EMBASSIES.

5. PLENARY SESSIONS OF CONGRESS WILL REVOLVE AROUND REPORTS BY 14 SPECIAL COMMISSIONS. REPORTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DRAFTED BY WORKING GROUPS. COMMISSIONS OF UP TO 200 MEMBERS WILL MEET DURING CONGRESS TO DISCUSS DRAFTS. REPORTS WILL NOT BE APPROVED BY COMMISSIONS AND NO VOTES WILL BE TAKEN ON CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 12483 101814Z

THEM BY CONGRESS, BUT RATHER "SENSE" OF EACH COMMISSION DISCUSSION WILL BE REPORTED ORALLY BY ITS CHAIRMAN AND "CONSENSUS" OF CONGRESS WILL BE REACHED. FINALLY, CONGRESS WILL ISSUE COMMUNIQUE, SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WILL ALSO BE APPROVED BY "CONSENSUS" OF DELEGATES. KHARKHARDIN ASSERTED THAT PREPARATORY COMMITTEE EXPECTED THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME DISAGREEMENTS AMONG DELEGATES BUT THAT GENERAL "CONSENSUS" WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

6. EMBOFF NOTED THAT FROM RECENT SOVIET PRESS REPORTING CONGRESS APPARENTLY WILL BE FOCUSED ON MIDDLE EAST, CHILE, AND ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY. KHARKHARDIN SAID ALL 14 THEMES SOME OF WHICH CONCERN ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL SUBJECTS) ARE IMPORTANT, BUT THAT DELEGATES "NATURALLY" WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN CURRENT EVENTS "AFFECTING WORLD PEACE." HE NOTED THAT A COMMISSION ON CHILE HAD BEEN ADDED, AS A RESULT OF RECENT EVENTS. HE ALSO SAID "IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM" WOULD BE MAJOR SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION.

7. EMBOFF MENTIONED STATEMENT IN VIENNA BY SEAN MACBRIDE (SECRETARY GENERAL OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL THAT HE PLANNED TO DISCUSS WITH SOVIETS QUESTION OF THEIR TREATMENT OF DISSIDENTS (REF B). KHARKHARDIN SAID MACBRIDE, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN MOSCOW FOR CONGRESS PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING, HAD INDEED RAISED MATTER AND "OF COURSE WE DID NOT REFUSE TO LISTEN TO HIM."
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